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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 44094

AUGUST 1984

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LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(In thousands)	PRELIMINARY AUGUST 1984				REVISED JULY 1984				REVISED AUGUST 1983			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,964.3	1,781.9	182.4	9.3	1,954.9	1,771.1	183.8	9.4	1,927.9	1,703.1	224.8	11.7
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	79.4	72.0	7.4	9.3	78.1	70.9	7.2	9.2	77.9	69.3	8.6	11.1
Baton Rouge 2/	251.0	230.3	20.7	8.3	250.1	229.3	20.8	8.3	240.8	216.9	23.9	9.9
Lafayette 3/	97.4	91.7	5.7	5.9	98.2	92.4	5.8	5.9	95.8	87.4	8.4	8.7
Lake Charles 4/	76.0	66.0	10.0	13.2	76.3	65.9	10.4	13.6	78.9	67.5	11.4	14.4
Monroe 5/	60.7	55.1	5.6	9.2	60.3	54.6	5.7	9.5	60.0	53.6	6.4	10.7
New Orleans 6/	544.4	497.0	47.4	8.7	542.6	495.5	47.1	8.7	534.4	479.1	55.3	10.4
Shreveport 7/	171.1	158.3	12.8	7.5	172.8	159.8	13.0	7.5	172.3	153.7	18.6	10.8

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,568,900 for August, a decrease of 4,200 workers below July's level but 13,600 above the comparable period a year ago. A decrease in the state's nonmanufacturing employment was responsible for the downturn in total nonagricultural payrolls. August payrolls in manufacturing were up as a result of increases in both durable goods and nondurable goods employees.

1/ Includes Avoyelles, Grant, & Rapides parishes. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Lafayette Parish only. 4/ Calcasieu Parish only. 5/ Ouachita Parish only. 6/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, and St. Tammany parishes. 7/ Includes Bossier, Caddo, and Webster parishes.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing was up by 500 workers from July's level. Increased activity at sawmills and planing mills and more need for millwork, plywood and structural members resulted in an increase in employment for the lumber and wood products industry. Furniture and fixtures employment was higher for August due to an upturn in the manufacture of household furniture. Employment edged upward in primary metal industries as production of primary nonferrous metals was increased. More demand for fabricated structural metal products accounted for the increase in fabricated metal products employment. Increased need for construction and related machinery and for refrigeration and service machinery was responsible for the higher employment level in the machinery, except electrical, industry. Lower production of household appliances accounted for the lower employment level in the electric and electronic equipment industry.

Total nondurable goods employment for August, at 98,900, was up by 700 from the July level, but 1,100 lower than August a year ago. A seasonal increase in sweet potato canning was a large factor in the rise of employment in the food and kindred products industry. Employment in the printing and publishing segment of nondurable goods fell in August as newspaper publishers showed less activity. Contributing to lower payroll levels in chemicals and allied products were cutbacks in the manufacture of industrial organic chemicals, agricultural chemicals, and soaps, cleaners and toilet goods. A decrease in petroleum and coal products industry employment was centered in the petroleum refining segment. Increased activity in the leather and leather products industry largely accounted for the upward turn in other nondurable goods payrolls.

Louisiana's employment in nonmanufacturing industries during August was 1,385,800, a decrease of 5,400 from the July figure of 1,391,200. Decreased production of crude petroleum and natural gas led to decreases in oil and gas extraction employment for August. Construction moved down due in large part to payroll cutbacks in heavy construction. An increase in activity at the state's ports was instrumental in the increase of transportation, except railroads, employment. Less business for eating and drinking places and for certain miscellaneous retail outlets contributed to lower retail trade employment for August. Payroll cutbacks in the durable goods sector accounted for most of the drop in wholesale trade employment. Insurance agents, brokers and services was among the segments of finance, insurance and real estate that lost employment in August. Among the segments of services contributing to payroll losses in this area of nonmanufacturing were health services, social services and membership organizations. Estimated government employment this month was lower as a result of a decline in state government employment.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 128,900 production workers in manufacturing increased from $419.80 in July to $419.98 in August, an increase of $0.18 and an increase of $31.30 above the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were two cents lower in August than last month and $0.28 more than August of last year. Weekly hours averaged 41.5 for August, an increase of 0.1 hours from July's figure.

Estimated total unemployment in the state for August amounted to 182,400, a decrease of 1,400 from the July level of 183,800. The unemployment rate for August was 9.3 percent, a decrease of 0.1 percentage points below last month's rate and 2.4 percentage points lower than August of last year. The comparable national unemployment rate for August was 7.3 percent compared to 7.5 percent in July and 9.2 percent in August of last year. Louisiana's civilian labor force increased from 1,954,900 in July to 1,964,300 in August, an increase of 9,400. Total employment, at 1,781,900, was up by 10,800 from last month and 78,800 higher than August a year ago.

The state's unemployment rate is expected to continue its decline during the next month as students leave the labor force to return to school. Total nonagricultural employment for Louisiana is expected to experience a seasonal upturn in September.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change from July 1984	Net Change from August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	1,568.9	1,573.1	1,555.3	- 4.2	+ 13.6
MINING AND QUARRYING	77.2	78.2	78.7	- 1.0	- 1.5
Oil and Gas Extraction	74.1	75.1	75.5	- 1.0	- 1.4
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.1	3.1	3.2	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	112.2	113.9	116.7	- 1.7	- 4.5
MANUFACTURING	183.1	181.9	179.4	+ 1.2	+ 3.7
Durable Goods	84.2	83.7	79.4	+ 0.5	+ 4.8
Lumber and Wood Products	13.7	13.6	13.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.4
Furniture and Fixtures	0.8	0.6	0.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	7.9	7.9	7.8	0	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.5	3.4	3.5	+ 0.1	0
Fabricated Metal Products	13.5	13.4	13.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Machinery, Except Electrical	10.0	9.9	9.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Electric & Electronic Equipment	10.9	11.0	8.2	- 0.1	+ 2.7
Transportation Equipment	21.3	21.3	21.3	0	0
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.6	2.6	2.0	0	+ 0.6
Nondurable Goods	98.9	98.2	100.0	+ 0.7	- 1.1
Food & Kindred Products	23.3	22.2	23.4	+ 1.1	- 0.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.2	9.2	8.6	0	+ 0.6
Paper & Allied Products	11.8	11.8	11.5	0	+ 0.3
Printing & Publishing	9.7	9.8	9.7	- 0.1	0
Chemicals & Allied Products	28.9	29.0	30.1	- 0.1	- 1.2
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.0	12.4	12.9	- 0.4	- 0.9
Petroleum Refining	11.3	11.7	12.3	- 0.4	- 1.0
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.0	3.8	3.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	116.9	116.3	112.2	+ 0.6	+ 4.7
Railroad Transportation	7.5	7.5	7.1	0	+ 0.4
Transportation, ex. Railroads	67.8	67.3	68.8	+ 0.5	- 1.0
Communications & Public Utilities	41.6	41.5	36.3	+ 0.1	+ 5.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	375.5	376.8	372.4	- 1.3	+ 3.1
Wholesale Trade	95.1	95.6	95.1	- 0.5	0
Retail Trade	280.4	281.2	277.3	- 0.8	+ 3.1
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	57.4	56.8	59.1	+ 0.6	- 1.7
Food Stores	52.5	52.6	50.8	- 0.1	+ 1.7
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	30.8	31.1	30.7	- 0.3	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	87.9	88.4	84.7	- 0.5	+ 3.2
Other Retail Trade	51.8	52.3	52.0	- 0.5	- 0.2
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	83.9	84.1	83.7	- 0.2	+ 0.2
Banking	28.1	28.2	27.9	- 0.1	+ 0.2
SERVICES	308.9	310.0	304.0	- 1.1	+ 4.9
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.7	22.6	21.3	+ 0.1	+ 1.4
Other Services	286.2	287.4	282.7	- 1.2	+ 3.5
GOVERNMENT	311.2	311.9	308.2	- 0.7	+ 3.0
Federal	34.7	34.6	34.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
State and Local	276.5	277.3	274.2	- 0.8	+ 2.3
State	94.6	95.5	95.5	- 0.9	- 0.9
Local	181.9	181.8	178.7	+ 0.1	+ 3.2

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$419.98	$419.80	$388.68	41.5	41.4	39.5	$10.12	$10.14	$9.84
Durable Goods	398.16	387.50	351.12	42.0	41.4	39.1	9.48	9.36	8.98
Lumber & Wood Products	334.84	324.86	277.50	39.3	38.4	39.7	8.52	8.46	6.99
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	365.82	387.86	355.45	42.0	41.0	43.4	8.71	9.46	8.19
Fabricated Metal Products	412.67	421.67	370.40	45.7	46.8	39.7	9.03	9.01	9.33
Machinery, ex. Electrical	396.76	393.72	368.24	41.2	40.8	38.6	9.63	9.65	9.54
Electric & Electronic Equip.	429.52	370.51	377.72	41.3	39.5	38.9	10.40	9.38	9.71
Transportation Equipment	450.19	448.86	374.68	41.8	41.6	38.0	10.77	10.79	9.86
Nondurable Goods	441.16	450.85	426.26	41.0	41.4	39.8	10.76	10.89	10.71
Food & Kindred Products	260.44	267.96	246.05	37.8	38.5	35.2	6.89	6.96	6.99
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	171.34	171.62	176.40	34.2	34.6	39.2	5.01	4.96	4.50
Paper & Allied Products	533.82	539.90	536.99	43.4	43.4	43.8	12.30	12.44	12.26
Printing & Publishing	314.34	319.13	312.84	37.6	37.5	36.0	8.36	8.51	8.69
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	632.02	637.71	598.21	43.2	43.5	41.6	14.63	14.66	14.38
Petroleum & Coal Products	672.60	669.73	640.19	47.5	47.6	46.9	14.16	14.07	13.65
Petroleum Refining	691.20	679.25	654.72	48.1	47.6	46.9	14.37	14.27	13.96
MINING	536.33	549.84	512.90	46.8	47.4	46.0	11.46	11.60	11.15
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	461.71	457.20	395.55	39.7	40.0	33.1	11.63	11.43	11.95
BANKING	239.27	243.76	221.03	37.8	39.7	37.4	6.33	6.14	5.91

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 128,900 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 103,000 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY AUGUST 1984				REVISED JULY 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
Crowley (Acadia)	24,775	22,050	2,725	11.0	24,375	21,600	2,775	11.4
Oakdale (Allen)	6,500	5,375	1,125	17.2	6,575	5,325	1,250	19.0
Napoleonville (Assumption)	10,925	9,625	1,300	11.9	10,725	9,450	1,275	11.9
DeRidder (Beauregard)	12,600	11,200	1,400	11.1	12,600	11,175	1,425	11.2
Arcadia (Bienville)	7,500	6,850	650	8.5	7,400	6,750	650	8.8
Columbia (Caldwell)	5,025	4,575	450	8.7	4,900	4,450	450	9.3
Cameron (Cameron)	5,025	4,700	325	6.4	4,925	4,600	325	6.7
Jonesville (Catahoula)	6,625	6,000	625	9.4	6,450	5,800	650	10.1
Homer (Claiborne)	7,700	7,100	600	7.6	7,600	7,000	600	8.0
Ferriday (Concordia)	9,950	8,850	1,100	11.0	9,825	8,700	1,125	11.4
Mansfield (DeSoto)	12,025	10,875	1,150	9.6	12,075	10,750	1,325	10.9
Lake Providence (E.Carroll)	5,500	4,750	750	13.7	5,350	4,575	775	14.5
Clinton (East Feliciana)	8,425	7,675	750	8.8	8,275	7,525	750	8.9
Ville Platte (Evangeline)	14,750	12,925	1,825	12.4	14,525	12,675	1,850	12.8
Winnsboro (Franklin)	9,025	7,850	1,175	12.9	8,825	7,650	1,175	13.2
New Iberia (Iberia)	36,575	32,600	3,975	10.9	36,550	32,575	3,975	10.9
Plaquemine (Iberville)	15,825	14,075	1,750	11.0	15,575	13,875	1,700	11.0
Jonesboro (Jackson)	6,475	6,000	475	7.4	6,450	5,950	500	7.7
Jennings (Jefferson Davis)	13,550	11,825	1,725	12.8	13,300	11,600	1,700	12.8
Thibodaux (Lafourche)	39,325	35,775	3,550	9.0	38,975	35,300	3,675	9.4
Jena (LaSalle)	6,400	5,875	525	8.3	6,325	5,800	525	8.4
Ruston (Lincoln)	21,550	20,625	925	4.3	21,425	20,525	900	4.2
Tallulah (Madison)	5,700	5,050	650	11.5	5,525	4,875	650	11.6
Bastrop (Morehouse)	13,250	11,825	1,425	10.7	13,125	11,700	1,425	10.9
Natchitoches (Natchitoches)	17,750	16,425	1,325	7.5	17,700	16,325	1,375	7.8
Point-a-la-Hache(Plaqum.)	14,725	13,750	975	6.6	14,750	13,725	1,025	7.0
New Roads (Pointe Coupee)	13,950	12,550	1,400	10.0	13,650	12,250	1,400	10.2
Coushatta (Red River)	4,450	4,100	350	7.8	4,400	4,050	350	7.8
Rayville (Richland)	8,600	7,625	975	11.3	8,425	7,475	950	11.3
Many (Sabine)	8,375	7,700	675	8.0	8,325	7,650	675	8.2
Norco (St. Charles)	22,825	20,500	2,325	10.2	22,750	20,450	2,300	10.2
Greensburg (St. Helena)	4,700	4,275	425	8.9	4,550	4,150	400	9.0
Lutcher (St. James)	12,250	10,725	1,525	12.5	11,850	10,400	1,450	12.3
Reserve (St. John)	18,900	16,600	2,300	12.2	18,475	16,275	2,200	11.9
Opelousas (St. Landry)	35,975	30,475	5,500	15.3	35,675	30,125	5,550	15.6
St. Martinville (St. Martin)	20,225	17,625	2,600	12.9	20,050	17,500	2,550	12.7
Morgan City (St. Mary)	33,525	29,725	3,800	11.4	33,125	29,225	3,900	11.8
Hammond (Tangipahoa)	36,200	31,150	5,050	13.9	35,700	30,500	5,200	14.6
St. Joseph (Tensas)	3,275	2,975	300	9.3	3,150	2,825	325	10.3
Houma (Terrebonne)	47,100	42,900	4,200	8.9	46,550	42,250	4,300	9.2
Farmerville (Union)	8,050	7,325	725	9.1	7,975	7,225	750	9.5
Abbeville (Vermilion)	25,850	23,350	2,500	9.6	25,800	23,125	2,675	10.4
Leesville (Vernon)	12,925	11,625	1,300	10.1	12,775	11,450	1,325	10.4
Bogalusa (Washington)	15,300	13,175	2,125	13.8	15,050	12,975	2,075	13.8
Oak Grove (West Carroll)	4,575	3,825	750	16.3	4,250	3,450	800	18.9
St. Francisville (W.Felic.)	3,950	3,725	225	5.7	3,975	3,750	225	5.9
Winnfield (Winn)	5,825	5,325	500	8.6	5,875	5,325	550	9.2

Note: Labor Market Areas are designated by name of principal Town, but include all of parish in parenthesis.

Above data rounded to nearest 25 except LMA's and Statewide which are rounded to nearest 100. Subtotals may not add to totals due to rounding. Rates computed from unrounded data.

ALEXANDRIA AREA (1)
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	54.3	54.1	53.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
MANUFACTURING	5.6	5.4	5.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.8	2.9	2.8	- 0.1	0
Lumber & Wood Products	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.7	1.6	- 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	2.8	2.5	2.5	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.6	0.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	48.7	48.7	48.0	0	+ 0.7
Construction	3.5	3.4	3.6	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Trans., Comm., & Pub. Utilities	2.5	2.5	2.1	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	12.7	12.8	12.5	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade	2.7	2.8	2.7	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	10.0	10.0	9.8	0	+ 0.2
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Other Retail Trade	4.3	4.3	4.2	0	+ 0.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Services & Mining	11.7	11.7	11.5	0	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.2	5.2	5.2	0	0
Other Services & Mining	6.5	6.5	6.3	0	+ 0.2
Government	15.4	15.4	15.4	0	0
Federal	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	+ 0.1
State	5.8	5.9	5.8	- 0.1	0
Local	6.8	6.7	6.9	+ 0.1	- 0.1

(1) Geographic coverage of data now published for this area differs from the standard definition. Data also includes Avoyelles Parish.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Alexandria area had an estimated nonagricultural employment of 54,300 during August. This employment estimate is 200 more than last month and 1,000 more than this month a year ago.

Total employment in manufacturing increased 200 over the previous month and 300 over this month last year. These increases were primarily due to increased employment at a local food processing plant a little earlier this year.

Total employment in nonmanufacturing is unchanged since last month and 700 more than August of last year. Although the total from last month was unchanged, there were some slight gains with corresponding losses. The major gains over August of last year was in transportation, communication and utilities, which was due to a labor dispute during that month and retail trade due to growth.

During the next thirty days total employment should increase, with the unemployment rate decreasing.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	210.7	210.6	202.7	+ 0.1	+ 8.0
MANUFACTURING	22.2	22.4	22.5	- 0.2	- 0.3
Durable Goods	4.4	4.6	3.9	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.0	1.1	0.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Other Durable Goods	1.9	2.0	1.6	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	17.8	17.8	18.6	0	- 0.8
Food & Kindred Products	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	13.0	13.0	13.9	0	- 0.9
Other Nondurable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	188.5	188.2	180.2	+ 0.3	+ 8.3
Mining	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Construction	20.8	20.8	20.5	0	+ 0.3
Transportation and Public Utilities	9.4	9.7	9.2	- 0.3	+ 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	51.5	51.2	48.4	+ 0.3	+ 3.1
Wholesale Trade	11.3	11.4	11.2	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	40.2	39.8	37.2	+ 0.4	+ 3.0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	12.8	12.7	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Services	40.5	40.3	38.5	+ 0.2	+ 2.0
Government	52.6	52.6	50.4	0	+ 2.2

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$509.58	$521.26	$483.05	42.5	44.1	42.9	$11.99	$11.82	$11.26
Petro-Chemicals	674.35	699.19	632.84	46.7	46.8	45.3	14.44	14.94	13.97

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 210,700 during August, was unchanged from the July revised estimate and up 8,000 over the total for last August. Manufacturing was down 200 and nonmanufacturing was up 300 during the current period.

Employment in manufacturing at 22,200 in August was down 200 from the revised July total. Durable goods were down due to less business in structural clay products, concrete, gypsum and plaster products, in blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling and finishing mills, in miscellaneous primary metal products, and in miscellaneous machinery, except electrical. Nondurable goods had no change during the current period.

Estimated employment in nonmanufacturing at 188,500 during August was up 300 from July's revised estimate. Mining, construction and government had no change during the current period. Transportation and public utilities are down due to a partial shut down in trucking, local and long distance, reductions in radio and television broadcasting, and students leaving their summer jobs to return to school. Wholesale trade was down due to less business in machinery, equipment, and supplies and in chemicals and allied products. Retail trade had seasonal increases in grocery stores and in eating and drinking places. Finance, insurance, and real estate increased due to more business in savings and loan associations, life insurance, and in subdividers and developers. Services were up due to more business in personnel supply services, miscellaneous business services, and in engineering, architectural, and surveying services.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's estimated 12,600 production workers in all manufacturing industries was $509.58 in August, down $11.68 from July's revised average. Average weekly hours were down 1.6 hours and average hourly earnings were up $0.17. Less overtime worked and more overtime by higher paid employees contributed to these changes.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 230,300 during August, up 1,000 over July's revised estimate and up 13,400 over July of last year. Unemployment was down 100 and the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 8.3 percent during the current period. The statewide unemployment rate was 9.3 percent during August. The local civilian labor force was up 900 during the current period and up 10,200 over the total for August of last year.

Seasonal changes due to unemployed students withdrawing from the labor force during the coming month should help reduce the local unemployment rate.

The Baton Rouge and Gonzales Job Service Offices served 3,600 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 438 applicants in jobs during August.

The consumer price index for July, 1984 for all urban consumers was 311.7 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 307.5 using base period 1967=100.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	88.1	89.0	85.9	- 0.9	+ 2.2
MANUFACTURING	3.9	3.9	3.6	0	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	1.9	0	+ 0.3
Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.1	1.2	1.1	- 0.1	0
NONMANUFACTURING	84.2	85.1	82.3	- 0.9	+ 1.9
Mining	16.2	16.4	15.4	- 0.2	+ 0.8
Construction	4.9	5.0	5.3	- 0.1	- 0.4
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	6.8	6.8	6.6	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale & Retail Trade	24.3	24.9	23.3	- 0.6	+ 1.0
Wholesale Trade	6.7	6.8	6.6	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	17.6	18.1	16.7	- 0.5	+ 0.9
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	+ 0.1
Food Stores	2.7	2.7	2.4	0	+ 0.3
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Retail Trade	10.5	11.0	10.0	- 0.5	+ 0.5
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.7	3.7	3.8	0	- 0.1
Services	18.6	18.6	18.7	0	- 0.1
Government	9.7	9.7	9.2	0	+ 0.5

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during August amounted to 88,100, a decrease of 900 from the previous month and an increase of 2,200 from the same period of time a year ago.

Nonmanufacturing employment was estimated at 84,200, a decrease of 900 from July and 1,900 increase from the same period of time a year ago.

Manufacturing employment remained stable in relation to the previous month.

Trade showed a decrease of 600 from the previous month and an increase of 1,000 from the same time period a year ago. This decrease was due in part to a layoff of temporary and part-time help going back to school.

The other industries remained relatively stable showing small increases or decreases in employment.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment is predicted to respond to the usual pattern of increase in the next two months.

Unemployment in Lafayette should remain about the same for the next month. There is little indication that onshore drilling will pick up within the remaining months of 1984. Many oil analysts are hoping for a brighter picture in 1985.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	58.4	58.6	61.4	- 0.2	- 3.0
MANUFACTURING	9.2	9.2	9.7	0	- 0.5
Durable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Nondurable Goods	8.4	8.4	8.9	0	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Chemical & Pet Products	7.6	7.6	8.0	0	- 0.4
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	49.2	49.4	51.7	- 0.2	- 2.5
Mining	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Construction	4.3	4.4	6.2	- 0.1	- 1.9
Trans., Comm. & Pub. & Utilities	4.7	4.7	4.3	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade	13.8	13.8	14.5	0	- 0.7
Wholesale Trade	3.3	3.3	3.3	0	0
Retail Trade	10.5	10.5	11.2	0	- 0.7
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.0	2.0	2.4	0	- 0.4
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	3.2	3.3	3.2	- 0.1	0
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.5	10.6	11.0	- 0.1	- 0.5
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Government	10.6	10.6	10.5	0	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose 200 over the July total as hiring activity in nonmanufacturing establishments increased. The factory job total remained unchanged. The current nonagricultural employment falls 3,100 jobs below the year ago level and about the largest part of the decline occurred in nonmanufacturing.

The Lake Charles area manufacturing industries remained unchanged from mid-July but fell 500 below the August 1983 total. All of this decline occurred in Nondurable Goods factories.

Most of the 2,600 job loss in nonmanufacturing establishments occurred in Construction, Trade, Services, and Mining "took-up" the remainder.

The outlook is for continued decline in unemployment as the labor force shrinks with summer job seekers returning to school.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	51.5	51.2	51.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
MANUFACTURING	7.0	6.8	6.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Durable Goods	2.1	2.0	2.1	+ 0.1	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.8	1.9	+ 0.1	0
Nondurable Goods	4.9	4.8	4.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.1	3.0	3.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
NONMANUFACTURING	44.5	44.4	44.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Mining	0.4	0.4	0.6	0	- 0.2
Construction	2.3	2.4	3.2	- 0.1	- 0.9
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	2.8	2.8	2.5	0	+ 0.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	14.3	14.2	14.3	+ 0.1	0
Wholesale Trade	4.1	4.1	4.2	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	10.2	10.1	10.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.9	2.9	2.7	0	+ 0.2
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.9	2.8	2.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	4.1	4.1	4.0	0	+ 0.1
Services	10.3	10.2	10.3	+ 0.1	0
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Health Services	4.2	4.2	4.2	0	0
Government	10.3	10.3	9.5	0	+ 0.8

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose by an estimated 300 to 51,500 during mid-August.

Manufacturing, estimated at 7,000, was 200 above the July estimate. Other Durable Goods and other Nondurable Goods each had gains of 100.

Nonmanufacturing, estimated at 44,500, was 100 above the July estimate. Wholesale and Retail Trade was up 100 in Retail Trade. Services showed a gain of 100. The only loss occurred in the depressed Construction industry as it dropped another 100 workers. All other segments were unchanged.

Over the next sixty days employment is expected to remain relatively stable as the beginning of the fall semester offsets the lay-off of summer jobs of youths ends. Unemployment will remain high with only slight declines.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	508.6	508.4	501.9	+ 0.2	+ 6.7
MANUFACTURING	40.2	40.1	40.6	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Durable Goods	23.8	23.5	23.9	+ 0.3	- 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.4	0	+ 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	3.2	3.2	3.4	0	- 0.2
Machinery, Except Electrical	3.0	2.9	2.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Transportation Equipment	13.3	13.1	13.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.1
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	8.2	8.1	8.6	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Other Durable Goods	1.1	1.1	1.4	0	- 0.3
Nondurable Goods	16.4	16.6	16.7	- 0.2	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	6.8	7.0	7.1	- 0.2	- 0.3
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.8	1.9	1.8	- 0.1	0
Paper & Allied Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Printing & Publishing	3.3	3.2	3.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	468.4	468.3	461.3	+ 0.1	+ 7.1
Mining	18.5	18.6	18.3	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Construction	28.3	28.6	31.1	- 0.3	- 2.8
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	46.3	46.0	45.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Water Transportation	15.9	15.7	16.2	+ 0.2	- 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	132.9	132.8	129.5	+ 0.1	+ 3.4
Wholesale Trade	35.2	35.3	35.1	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	97.7	97.5	94.4	+ 0.2	+ 3.3
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	31.7	31.7	32.0	0	- 0.3
Services	125.2	124.7	121.4	+ 0.5	+ 3.8
Government	85.5	85.9	83.2	- 0.4	+ 2.3
Federal	14.8	14.9	14.8	- 0.1	0
State	19.5	19.9	20.0	- 0.4	- 0.5
Local	51.2	51.1	48.4	+ 0.1	+ 2.8

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$378.27	$391.53	$340.96	40.5	42.1	37.8	$9.34	$9.30	$9.02
Durable Goods	392.47	422.32	358.59	41.4	43.9	38.6	9.48	9.62	9.29
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	366.86	420.44	354.45	41.5	45.8	42.5	8.84	9.18	8.34
Fabricated Metal Products	478.95	486.73	454.10	54.8	56.4	42.4	8.74	8.63	10.71
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	384.77	413.92	323.56	38.4	40.7	35.4	10.02	10.17	9.14
Nondurable Goods	356.98	348.88	314.03	39.1	39.6	36.6	9.13	8.81	8.58
Food & Kindred Products	281.24	291.01	261.34	37.7	40.7	35.8	7.46	7.15	7.30
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	147.48	147.74	127.87	32.7	31.3	30.3	4.51	4.72	4.22
Paper & Allied Products	391.72	374.02	341.14	46.8	44.9	41.3	8.37	8.33	8.26
Printing & Publishing	353.20	371.13	298.34	40.0	41.1	38.2	8.83	9.03	7.81
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	662.91	573.31	566.71	41.2	38.4	39.3	16.09	14.93	14.42

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 26,800 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the New Orleans Labor Market Area in August moved up to 508,600, a level 200 above July. Both nonmanufacturing and manufacturing exhibited minor overall upturns.

Manufacturing employment totaled 40,200 in August, 100 over last month's total. Increases in machinery and transportation equipment offset decreases in food and kindred products. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment has decreased by 400.

Nonmanufacturing registered an overall increase of 100, with increases in several industries offsetting decreases in others. Local government reflected a seasonal upturn by the public schools. State and federal government showed decreases. Both wholesale and retail trade exhibited increases over the month. Back-to-school shopping benefitted both general merchandise stores and miscellaneous retail stores. Unfavorable was the downturn in eating and drinking places. Services were boosted by gains in business and educational services. Transportation enjoyed increases in water transportation and motor freight transportation. Construction lost workers in building construction and employment by special trade contractors; heavy construction increased slightly.

Area production workers earned an average $378.27 in August, down $13.26 from last month. An increase of four cents in average hourly earnings could not compensate for the drop of one hour and forty eight minutes in average weekly hours. Average weekly earnings are up $37.31 compared with the average one year ago.

Estimated unemployment in August increased to 47,400, up 300 from July. Current joblessness comprises 8.7 percent of the labor force compared to 8.7 percent in July and 10.4 percent in August of last year. The unemployment rate in August was lower than the state rate of 9.3 percent, but higher than the comparable national rate of 7.3 percent.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the coming months will probably display an overall upturn. Private and public educational services will pull back up from the summer low as the fall school term moves along. Unemployment will likely show an overall decrease as many students return to school.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1984*	July 1984**	August 1983**	Net Change From July 1984	Net Change From August 1983
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARIED WORKERS	148.8	150.8	147.8	- 2.0	+ 1.0
MANUFACTURING	26.3	26.6	23.8	- 0.3	+ 2.5
Durable Goods	20.6	20.8	18.0	- 0.2	+ 2.6
Lumber and Wood Products	1.5	1.6	1.7	- 0.1	- 0.2
Metals and Machinery	13.1	13.1	10.8	0	+ 2.3
Primary and Fabricated Metals	4.0	4.0	3.6	0	+ 0.4
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	9.1	9.1	7.2	0	+ 1.9
Other Durable Goods	6.0	6.1	5.5	- 0.1	+ 0.5
Nondurable Goods	5.7	5.8	5.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.5	1.6	1.5	- 0.1	0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
NONMANUFACTURING	122.5	124.2	124.0	- 1.7	- 1.5
Mining	6.5	6.7	6.0	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Construction	9.7	10.1	9.9	- 0.4	- 0.2
Trans., Comm. & Pub. Utilities	9.4	9.5	9.4	- 0.1	0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	34.1	34.5	34.4	- 0.4	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade	9.1	9.3	8.8	- 0.2	+ 0.3
Retail Trade	25.0	25.2	25.6	- 0.2	- 0.6
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	8.1	8.2	8.1	- 0.1	0
Services	32.1	32.6	32.0	- 0.5	+ 0.1
Government	22.6	22.6	24.2	0	- 1.6

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**	August '84*	July '84**	August '83**
All MANUFACTURING	$402.37	$381.44	$376.36	41.1	39.9	39.7	$9.79	$9.56	$9.48
Lumber and Wood Products	231.73	225.42	223.67	40.3	39.0	40.3	5.75	5.78	5.55
Metals and Machinery	409.08	368.24	372.27	42.0	40.6	39.9	9.74	9.07	9.33
Food and Kindred Products	265.50	270.93	200.53	43.1	41.3	33.2	6.16	6.56	6.04
Printing and Publishing	248.93	248.93	240.04	31.0	31.0	30.5	8.03	8.03	7.87
Petroleum and Coal Products	559.02	578.40	517.33	46.2	48.2	45.3	12.10	12.00	11.42

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 20,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Shreveport Labor Market Area had an estimated 148,800 in total nonagricultural wage and salary employment, compared with 150,800 last month and 147,800 in August, 1983. Employment dropped during the past month in the manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors.

The total manufacturing estimate of 26,300 shows a decline of 300 from last month and an increase of 2,500 from one year ago. During the past month the durable goods employment total fell 200 with losses divided between lumber and wood products and other durable goods. An additional decline occurred in nondurable goods employment with the slight reduction of printing and publishing activity.

Total nonmanufacturing employment fell from the revised July estimate of 124,200 to 122,500. The most significant employment reduction occurred in services, construction, and trade. During the past month services employment declined from 32,600 to 32,100, while construction fell from 10,100 to 9,700 and trade employment moved down from 34,500 to 34,100.

Other employment losses from July to August includes mining, down 200, transportation and public utilities, down 100, and finance, insurance & real estate, down 100.

A total of 20,600 production workers in manufacturing in the Shreveport Labor Area had average weekly earnings of $402.37. The average weekly hours worked were 41.1, an increase over the revised July average of 39.9. The average hourly earnings increased from $9.56 to $9.79.

The Shreveport Labor Area has a civilian labor force of 171,100, including 158,300 employed and 12,800 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 7.5 percent, compared with 10.8 percent one year ago.

The outlook for this area is that the usual seasonal employment increase will be reflected in the September estimates. Unemployment will likely remain near the current level. An ongoing strike involving a major manufacturer in this area, if prolonged, will cause additional unemployment.